

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:13-10-2

(date entered: 5-4-80)

1. Name: John Gibson House

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 13/10/2 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 7

A-4

4. Address: 23362 Frederick Road, Clarksburg

5. Classification Summary

Category buildingOwnership privatePublic Acquisition N/AStatus unoccupiedAccessible noPresent use vacantPrevious Survey Recording M-NCPPCTitle and Date: 1976 Inventory of
Historical SitesFederal State x County x Local

6. Date: c. 1840

7. Original Owner: John Winemiller, Jr.

8. Apparent Condition

a. fairb. unalteredc. original site

9. Description: This three bay by three bay 2½ story L-shaped frame house faces east. It has a painted rubblestone foundation and is covered with clapboard siding. It has a carved paneled central door with sidelights and semi-elliptical transom. Windows are arched and most are covered by green louvered wood shutters. The unshuttered windows are six-over-six and two-over-two double hung sash. The one story porch with shed roof runs the length of the front facade, supported by four chamfered posts.

The boxed cornice is decorated with carved trim, matching the trim over the windows. The front roof is hipped and the rear one is gabled; both are covered with seamed metal. On the rear L is a two story wooden porch, two bay by one bay. There are three chimneys, a central and exterior one on the main block and one at the west facade of the rear L.

10. Significance: The John Gibson House is associated with the early mercantile and industrial history of Clarksburg. Its outstanding exterior architectural detailing makes it an exceptional example of mid-19th century residential architecture.

One of Clarksburg's earliest industrial enterprises, a tanyard that began operating about 1820 and continued until the late 1850s, adjoined this property. First owned by the Burnside family, tanyard and lot were sold to John Winemiller, Jr. in 1838. Winemiller probably constructed the house, but had to sell the property in 1849. It was purchased by Rufus Magruder, another tanner, who sold the land to Thomas Nichols and John Gibson in 1857. With their ownership the tanning operations ceased. They built a store on the site in the early 1860s, and John Gibson lived in the Winemiller house until 1922. It was then sold to William H. Leaman and to James I. Mullen in 1971.

1. Researcher and date researched: Kevin Parker-7/79

Margaret Coleman
Arch. Description

12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock

13. Date Compiled: 10/79

14. Designation
Approval

15. Acreage: 17,827 sq. ft.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 13/10 -2
Clarksburg HD
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Gibson House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

23362 Frederick Road

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER: vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

James Ivan Mullen

Telephone #: 301-949-3315

STREET & NUMBER

12705 Helen Road

CITY, TOWN

Wheaton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20906

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 4082

Folio #: 317

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M: 13-10-2

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay by three bay 2½ story L-shaped frame house faces east. It has a painted rubblestone foundation and is covered with clapboard siding. Its handsome straight lines are softened by multiple gentle arch lines.

The carved paneled door and semi-elliptical transom with sidelights are similar to those on the Leonidas Willson house. These sidelights are slightly arched.

Windows in the house are arched, and most of them are covered by green louvered wood shutters. The unshuttered windows are six-over-six and two-over-two double-hung sash.

The one-story porch which covers the front facade has a wood floor and a narrow tongue and groove ceiling painted blue. There are four chamfered posts and a shed roof.

The boxed cornice is decorated with carved trim, matching the trim over the windows.

The front roof is hipped and the rear one is gabled; both are covered with seamed metal.

On the rear L is a two story wooden porch, two bay by one bay. A board and batten door is on both the east and south walls of this porch on both levels.

There are three chimneys, one exterior block, one interior block and one interior brick.

Behind the house, an outhouse has a metal stove pipe. There is an old hand operated pump in the north yard.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Gibson house is significant for its associations with the early mercantile and industrial history of Clarksburg and the upper Montgomery County region. By virtue of its outstanding exterior woodwork and other distinctive architectural features, the Gibson house is an exceptional example of small town residential architecture.

Although the Gibson house was not constructed until about 1840, its site overlooked one of Clarksburg's earliest industrial enterprises, a tanyard that began operating about 1820 and continued until the late 1850s. The yard was one of Clarksburg's longest employers during this era.¹

Early tax assessments indicate that the tanning operations were in the hands of the Burnside family², who sold the property to Robert Beam in 1831.³ Beam in turn sold the tanyard and lot with its buildings to John Winemiller Jr. in 1838.⁴ It was Winemiller who appears to have constructed the house. The deed from Beam to Winemiller lists only "improvements".⁵ By 1849, however, when Winemiller was forced to sell the property because of debt, a "dwelling house" is mentioned in the deed.⁶ The assessment records seem to confirm this date of construction. The 1838 assessment lists the value of the tanyard lot as \$820,⁷ and this jumps to \$1,500 in 1842.⁸ Thus the house was probably constructed around 1840.

At the public auction Winemiller's property was purchased by Rufus Magruder.⁹ (another tanner).¹⁰ When Magruder sold the land to Thomas Nicholls and John Gibson in 1857,¹¹ the tanning operations finally came to an end. Nicholls and Gibson built a store on the site in the early 1860s,¹² which they replaced with a larger structure in the 1890s.¹³ The Gibson store increased Clarksburg's importance as a mercantile center for the northern Montgomery County region and continued operations until well into the twentieth century. It was the scene of amateur theatricals and many town meetings.¹⁴ It was demolished in the 1950s.

Meanwhile, John Gibson took up residence in the old Winemiller house which remained his residence until 1922. In 1922 Charles Gibson sold the old house to William H. Leaman,¹⁵ and in 1971 it came to its present owner.

Although in recent years it has stood vacant, the house still appears to be reasonably sound and in restorable condition.

Architecturally Tidewater design, the house is quite exceptional. Though it is built on the usual Clarksburg "L" plan, it possesses fine features such as handcarved staircase and banister and intricate jigsaw

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued on Attachment Sheet A)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Census Records of 1860.
 Hopkins Atlas of 1879.
 Land and Tax Records of Montgomery County.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 17,827 sq. ft.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kevin Parker

Margaret Coleman

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

work on the porch and under the eaves. This is rare in Montgomery County. A hipped roof and a simplified palladian window further distinguish the house. It appears that the original builder may have been somewhat influenced by 18th century Tidewater design. Although vacant the house appears sound.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 The 1850 Census lists 5 tanners and shoemakers. By 1860 all tanners have disappeared.
- 2 Land Records. U/22, (March 24, 1818.)
- 3 Land Records. BS-4/401, (June 4, 1831.)
- 4 Land Records. BS 9/148, (October 23, 1838.)
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 Land Records. STS 4/98. May 23, 1849.
- 7 1838 Tax Assessment
- 8 1842 Tax Assessment
- 9 Land Records. STS 4/98.
- 10 1850 Census - gives Magruder's occupation as "tanner".
- 11 Land Records. JGH 6/237, (September 26, 1857.); JGH 9/159, (December 4, 1863.)
- 12 1865 Martenet and Bond Map.
- 13 Martz, Ralph Fraley. "Early Days of Clarksburg Recalled by a Local Writer", in the News. Frederick, Maryland. April 7, 1960. p. 16.
- 14 Martz, p. 16.
- 15 Land Records. 314/374, (May 2, 1922).

NOTICES.

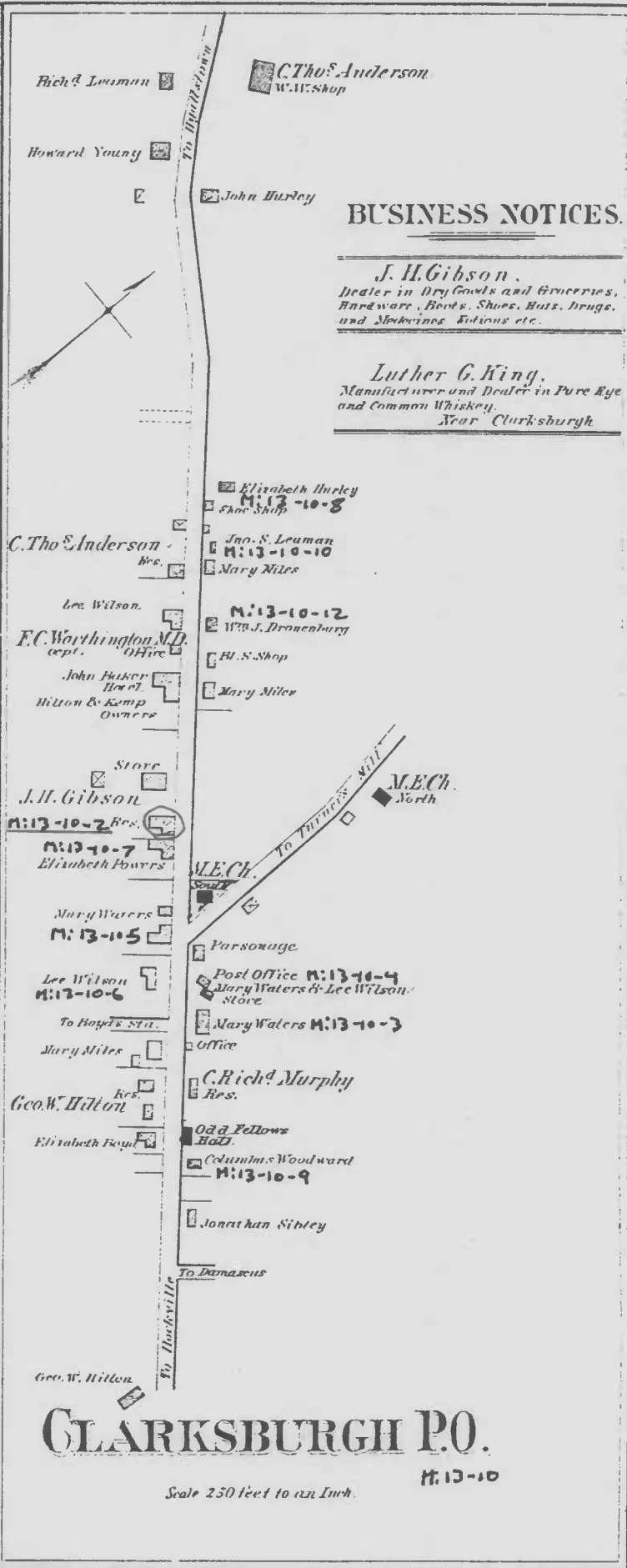
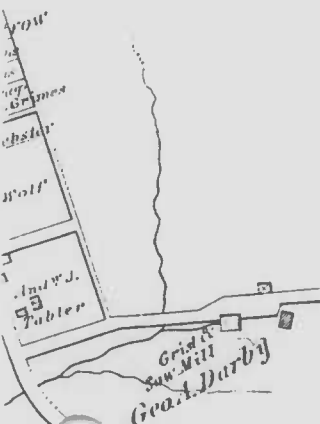
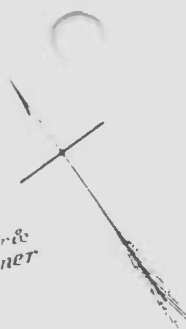
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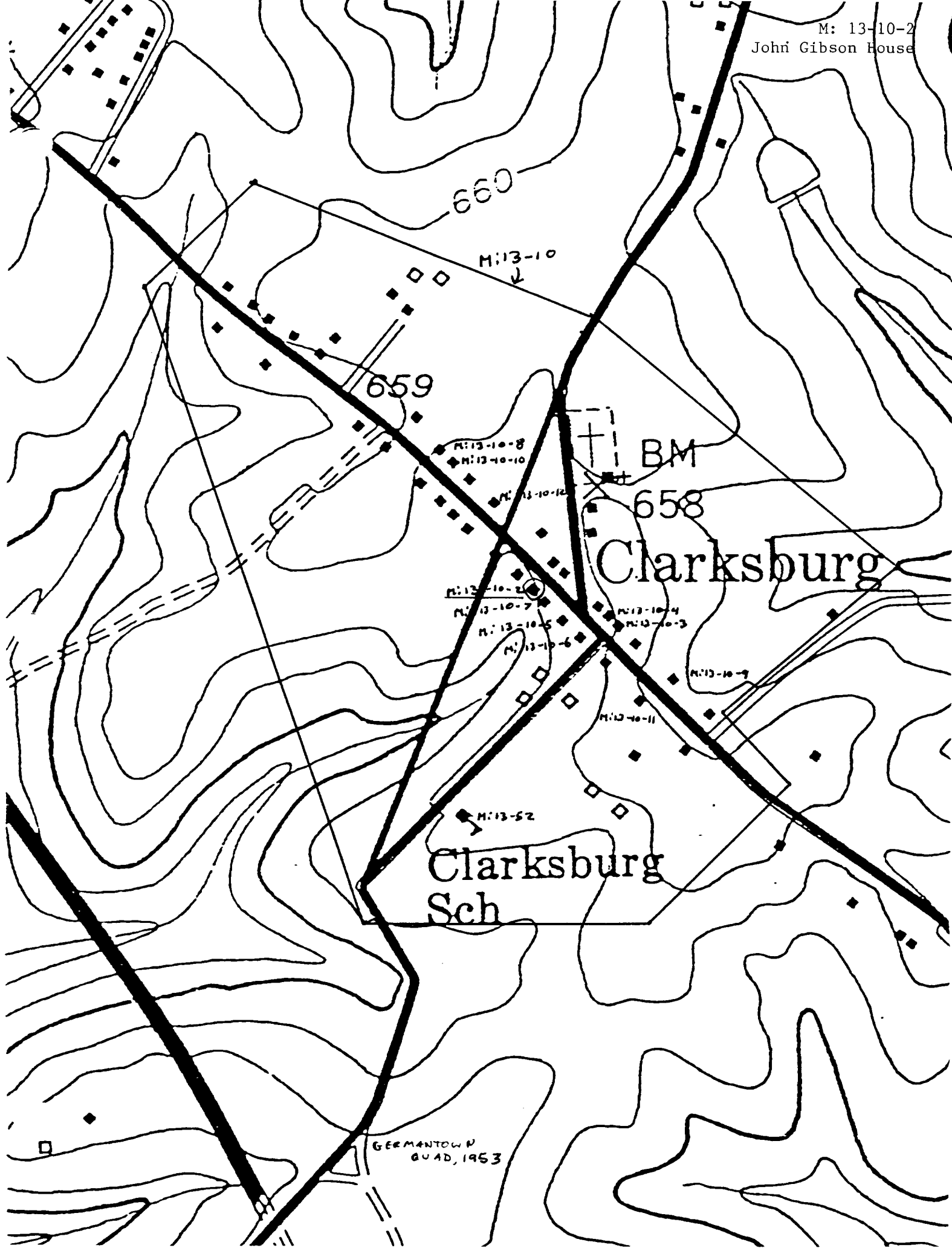
Darby.
Her.
Buckwheat Flour,
Kinds & Lumber.

ROW.
and Fancy Goods, Dry
Fruit, Brooms, Shoes, etc.

TOWN P.O.

et to an Inch.







Facade: east
Taken by Kevin Parker, 1979



Facade: north
Taken by Kevin Parker, 1979